

**REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
Tuesday October 27, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 10:06 AM with members of both consortia present (see sign in).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The approval of minutes was postponed to allow more time for review. Approval will occur via e-mail. Any corrections, deletions, or omissions should be forwarded to PatriciaLeslie@pointloma.edu.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*SHP Updates & Announcements:* The annual Affordable Housing Conference organized by the San Diego Housing Federation, held in October, was declared a success.

A special *HOPWA Notice* of Funding Availability has been released for \$700,000 in one time-money for HOPWA housing and services programs that have lost funding. See BuyNet on the County website.

*San Diego Housing Commission:* Lynda Brophy announced the appointment of Janet Flores as a Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing staff at the Housing Commission. Also, the Housing Commission welcomes the return of Kathy Houck to their staff.

*The Interagency Council on Homelessness* announced appointment of a new Executive Director, Barbara Poppe, a epidemiologist from Ohio who has 25 years of non- profit experience including nearly 15 years at the Community Shelter Board of Columbus and a board member of the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH).

**VASH** - The Federal VA office has authorized VASH (veterans housing) Program to hire casemanagers for the San Diego program which will help San Diegans access VASH vouchers.

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

*SHP Application Progress* - Peggy Goldstein; Dolores Diaz – Each SHP applicant has been contacted to review Exhibit II material prior to submittal.

*Project Homeless Connect* Update – Rosemary Johnston The next planning meeting for PHC is set for

*Data Governance Committee – Action item* –In accord with the HMIS agreement approved by the RCCC in September, the Steering group has nominated members for a Data Governance Committee. The slate was presented and approved by the RCCC. (consensus with one ‘no’ and 2 abstaining). The slate includes: ECS – Betsy Knight; ICS – Amber Zinsky or Laura TeVelde; North County Serenity House – Tray Thomason;

SBCS – Lorisa Camaclang; VOA – Victoria Lyle who will join the appointed seats - Juana Duenas from County HHSA; a member to be chosen by the City CA601 consortium; RTFH – Tiffany Bevilaqua; representatives from C-Star staff and a representative from IPH.

*Steering Committee Elections* – A slate of nominees for the Steering Committee will be presented at the January meeting. A list of current representatives will be distributed electronically in advance of that meeting.

*Census Planning*- Rachel Weil a new staff member at the Regional Task Force is liaison with the Census2010 staff. Census staff have contacted a number of organizations to gather information about shelters and places where homeless persons may be located. There was some concern expressed about privacy issues with the shelters. These concerns are being discussed at the planning meetings. Two representatives from the Census will participate in the PIT Count in January and are the central points of contact for the San Diego area. The Census efforts to count the homeless is planned for March 31, 2010 from Midnight until 7 AM.

*Hearth Act* – Implementation guidelines for the HEARTH Act that was adopted a few months ago are expected to be released in November. Further discussion of the local response will center around those guidelines. It is important to remember that the HEARTH Act will mean significant changes in the local SHP system.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE and LIAISON REPORTS**

*Employment* – Dave Siegler – Jack Miklos – The subcommittee met immediately prior to the full session. The Employment forum will be held on February 23rd rather than November this year. The committee is hoping to meet at the Army Door of Hope, compliments of the Salvation Army. The RCCC voted approval of the February date (with one abstaining). Next subcommittee meeting is Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

*Data Quality – Point In Time Count* – Pam Trunell / Tiffany Bevilaqua from RTFH is providing quarterly data quality reports to shelter providers and will be coordinating the sheltered PIT count on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Rachel Weil from RTFH is coordinating the unsheltered PIT count. All RCCC member organizations were reminded of the importance of these efforts and the need to provide accurate information.

*Legislative Committee* – Rosemary Johnston –

**Federal Report:** This week, both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs (VA) Committees will consider legislation pending, including S. 1547, the Zero Tolerance for Veterans Homelessness Act of 2009. S. 1547 was introduced in July by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI).

**Coordinated Care Medicaid Proposal** S.B. 1781, the Reduce Emergency Department Utilization through Coordination and Empowerment (REDUCE) Act legislation would establish a Medicaid demonstration program to improve access to Medicaid benefits for people with chronic disabling conditions, with a goal of reducing the use of emergency

services and improving health outcomes. Supportive housing providers that participate in the program would be able to be reimbursed by Medicaid for the variety of coordinated health services -- primary and behavioral health care services -- that help people remain in permanent housing.

**National Housing Trust Fund.** New legislation would use revenue from the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) to provide \$1 billion to the National Housing Trust Fund. Frank introduced similar legislation this summer, but H.R. 3766 would also require that tenants residing in homes funded through the National Housing Trust Fund pay no more than 30 percent of their income toward housing.

**Second Chance Act:** The U.S. Department of Justice recently announced more than \$28 million in Second Chance Act grants. Funding was awarded through five separate grant programs and will be used to support re-entry efforts to ease the transition for ex-offenders coming back into the community.. Awards announced include grantees for the Mentoring Grants to Nonprofit Organizations grant; the Prison Reentry Initiative Demonstration Grants; the National Adult and Juvenile Offender Re-Entry Resource Center; the Youth Offender Re-Entry Initiative; and the Juvenile Mentoring Initiative.

**National Reentry Resource Center** launched. The resource center aims to promote the successful reintegration of individuals from prisons and jails into their communities by providing resources for state and local governments, service providers, nonprofit organizations, and corrections institutions. The website will highlight current best practices and helpful resources on a variety of topics related to recidivism. Research has shown that a lack of stable housing can increase the risk of recidivism for people leaving jails and prisons.

### **State Report**

The governor signed the fewest number of bills in more than 40 years at the end of the legislative session. None of those signed will have a significant impact on homelessness. Housing California will be analyzing the 2009 Point in Time counts from 42 continua of cares throughout the state as well as data collected by county boards of education statewide on homeless children. A white paper on homelessness is also being prepared, and providers are invited to provide feedback by contacting Zack Olmstead at [zolmstead@housingca.org](mailto:zolmstead@housingca.org)

In an effort to save \$375 million annually, the state has trimmed its employment assistance programs, especially subsidized child care, and suspended work requirements for a large share of welfare-to-work recipients. One third of all welfare-to-work applicants are single parents with a child age 1-2 or two children under six. 5557,000 families are projected to be in the program in 2010, up from 466,000 families in 2008.

### **Local Legislative/homeless/housing news**

The city council of San Diego voted 6-2 to place its 220 bed winter shelter for single homeless men and women at the same site as last year's shelter, a vacant lot at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Island Avenue in East Village. The owner of the property, developer Dene Oliver, who also co-chaired the Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the San Diego region, has

agreed to allow the shelter to be located there. Alpha Project plans to open before Thanksgiving. The shelter will cost about \$433,000 to operate between Dec. 2 and late March. Alpha Project has identified other funding to allow an earlier opening date. The East Village Association Business Improvement District sent an Oct. 12 letter to the council from attorney Cynthia Eldred alleging that placing the shelter in East Village is a violation of the San Diego Municipal Code and various state codes, suggesting homeless individuals be issued hotel/motel vouchers.

Poverty in San Diego county rose to its highest level , 12.6 percent, this decade, up from 12.4 percent in 2000. The region's unemployment rate is now 10.4 percent, up from 7.4 percent at the end of 2008. The national poverty threshold for a family of four is \$22,000; for an individual, it is \$11,000.

*Logic Model* – Simonne Ruff, Holly Younghans - A phone conference was offered to organizations for a review of Logic Model goals and Objectives that were submitted as part of the SHP application. Holly Younghans who provided Logic Model training in September made a general recommendation that agencies keep their Logic Models simple

*PTECH* – Pat Leslie – The PTECH Executive Committee hosted a thank you event at United Way for volunteers. Brian Maienschein provided a brief overview of accomplishments and announced the intent to re-brand the PTECH with a more community-friendly name to launch 2010. PTECH has been renamed ***Home Again***.

*RCCC Manual Committee* –the new Chair person for the Manual Committee is Athena Freeman. The general plan is to request updates for the Manual after we submit the SHP applications. The rating and ranking section will need updates as well as any changes that result from the Hearth Act.

*HPRP*: This was the first full month for services for several programs under the HPRP funding.

**ADJOURN**